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NUMBER 25.

come. There is no retrent. Alertness

and fidelity would not be so important

if we could truthfully say: "I will be

back here again. The things I neglect

will be reincarnated, and I will resume

my earthly obligations. Having then

more knowledge than I have now, I

will discharge my earthly duties better

than I can now discharge them. I do

not give solemn farewell to these obli-

gations and opportunities, but a smil-

ing and cheery goodby until I see them

again." No, we cannot say that. There

will be no new and corrected edition of

the volume of our earthly life. After

we make exit from the stage at the

close of the fifth act we cannot re-en-

ter. How many millions of people have

lived and died I know not, but of all

the human race who have gone only

seven persons that I now think of have

returned, the son of the widow at

Zarephath, the young man of Nain, the ruler's daughter. Tabitha, Eutychus,

Lazarus and Christ. Among all the

ages to come I do not suppose there

will be one more who will return to

Put Your Trust In God.

At this point I ask you to notice the

fact that my text does not call atten-

tion to the crossing of the Jordan, but

to the way leading thereto. We all

think much of our crossing of the Jor-

ed, but put too little emphasis on the

way that leads to the crossing. What

you and I need most to care about is

the direction of the road we are trav-

eling. We need have no fear of the

crossing if we come to it in the right

way. In other words, we need not

care about death if our life has been

what it ought to be. We will die right

What an absurdity it would have

been for Joshua and his men to have

asked each other questions like these:

"How can we cross the Jordan if we

get there? Will not the water be too

deep to allow us to wade? Will we not

all be so saturated that we may lose

our lives by exposure? How many of

us can swim? Had we better not wait

until the annual freshet has subsided?"

No such folly did they commit. They

were chiefly anxious about the way

that they had "not passed before" and

were Ignorant of and to keep their eyes

on the golden covered acacla box, wing

mounted, which was the ark of the

O hearer, stop bothering about your

exit from sublunary scenes! By the

grace of God get your heart right and

then go ahead. If the Lord takes care

of you clear on to the bank on this

side of the river, I think you can trust

him to take you from bank to bank.

from the willows on this side the

stream to the palms on the other side,

from the last kiss of sorrowing ones

side. Keep your eye on the ark, and,

if we live right.

this life, having once left it.

We are all facing eternity to

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They had never been there before, and they must be guided. For that reason Joshua utters the words of my text, also full line

of

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Shingles,

tention by

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BERNARD REILY, Proprietor.



WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 .- This discourse s a most unusual presentation of things that take place in many lives, and Dr. Talmage pleads for merciful interpretation of buman behavior. The text is Joshun III, 4. "Ye have not passed this

vay heretofore " in December, 1889, I waded the river ordan, and, although the current was trong. I was able to bear up against it, but in the time of spring freshet, when the snows on Mount Lebanon regulates the bowels, and are melt, nothing but a miracle would enable any one to cross this river. It was at the dangerous springtime that Joshua and the officers of his army uttered the words of my text to the peo-ple who were in a few hours to cross the Jordan. About that crossing we say but little, because on a previous asion we discoursed concerning that piling up of the waters into crystal barricade. We only speak of the march to the brink of the river. No stranger thing has ever occurred in all history.
The ark of the covenant was a brilliant chest of acada wood, overlaid with gold, on the top of which were two winged figures facing each other. It was five feet long and three feet wide. Poles were thrust through the rings at the side, and by these poles the ark was lifted. This splendid box was to be carried three-quarters of a

mile ahead of the hosts of Israel on the way to the crossing. That distance between the box and the advancing thousands must be kept because of reverence. There was a sanctity in that divine symbol that they must observe by keeping three-quarters of mile away. They must watch that flittering box and follow; otherwise they would lose their way and not arrive at the right place for crossing. They had never been there before, and "Ye have not passed this way heretofore." And the subordinate officers at the head of the regiments repeated it, "Ye have not passed this way hereto-

What was truthfully said of the ancient Israellies may be truthfully said We are making our first and last journey through this world. It is possible, as some of my good friends believe, that this world will be corrected and improved and puritled and flo-Send us your ralized and emparadised as to climate orders, they and coll and character until it shall become a heaven for the ransomed, but I do not hink it. I have an idea that neaven' is already built somewhere. Our departed friends could not walt until this world is fixed up for saintly and angelic residence. Having once gone out of the world, I do not think we will come back, except as ministering spirits to help those who remain in the earthly struggle or perhaps to look at the wondrous spectacle of a

burning planet. Travelleg New Paths. are very sure that we are for the first time walking the earthly pilgrimage. "Ye have not passed this way before." Every minute is a new minute, every hour a new hour, every century a new century. Other folks have gone over the same road we are traveling, but it is our first trip. New appearances, new temptations, new sorrows, new joys. That is the reason so many lose their way. They meet some one on the road of life and ask for direction, and wrong direction is given. We have all been perplexed by misdirection after asking the way to some place we wished to visit. Some one said to us, "Take the first road to the right and, having gone a mile on that road, take the first road on the left. and you will soon reach your destina-We took the advice, but our in former forgot a turn in the road or forgot one of the roads leading to the left, and we took the wrong road and were lost in the woods, and night came on, and we were put to great irritation and

trouble. stead of blaming them. There are so many wrong roads, but only one right one. You cannot in midlife draw upon for midlife is so entirely different from youth. You cannot in old age draw upstages of existence are so diverse. What is wisdom for one man to do would be folly for another to undertake. A man of nerve and pluck is not qualified to advise a man timid and our temperament is different, our phys-115 N. Liberty St. near Lexing- different. Most of the great mistakes | you are not ready. that have been made have been made inder human advisement.

So, also, it may be said to every nation, "Ye have not passed this way the circumstances to any human ear, Our own republic is going through novel experiences. Could wisest statesman twenty years ago have prophesied present conditions? Every the perpetual abode of barbarians and world's thirst is going to be slaked. untain lions, and we must not think A Road of Novelty.

Many prophecies in regard to our nacerning its future will fail because it is planet. The Infinite God listening with never do at all. Joshua and his troops tion failed and many prophecies contraveling a new road. Every step it an ear in which a whisper 10,000 miles takes on that road is a novelty. The away is as audible as thunder.

How could men know in 1823 what it would be best for this nation to do in 1901? It is belittling as well as unwise for our statesmen, who are quite equal to the statesmen of the past and who have, in addition to the natural talents of their predecessors, attainments in knowledge that were impossible in any decade but our own, to depend on advice of men who have been dead three-quarters of a century. In all other things the world has advanc-Can it be that in statesmanship it has gone back and that this opening

the opening of the nineteenth century "Ye have not passed this way before. Yea, our entire world is on a new pathway. It may be swinging in the ame old orbit as when by the hand of the Almighty immensity was sprinkled with worlds, but it has been rocked with earthquakes and scorched with volcanic fires and whelmed with tidal waves and wrought upon by climatic changes-cities sunk, and Islands lifted, and mountains avalanched into valleys. So it is another world than that which was first started in the solar system. Yet it is all the time changing and will keep changing until the hour of its demolition. Of this beautiful world, this lustrous world, this glorious world, it may be said, "Ye have

not passed this way before." What is the practical use of this subject? Instead of putting so much stress upon human advice and instead of asking of the past what we ought to do, follow the divine leading as the men of Joshua followed the golden lidded chest of acacla, which was the symbol of the divine presence. Teaches Reverence to God.

That three-quarters of a mile distance between the ark or sacred box and the front column of Joshua's troops mightily impresses me. It was a forceful way of teaching reverence for the Almighty. They needed to learn that lesson of reverence, as we all need to learn it. Irreverence has cursed all nations, and none more than our own. Irreverence in the dse of God's name. Hear you it not on the streets and in social groups, and is not a profane word sometimes thought necessary to point Jacosity? Irreverence for the Scriptures, the phraseology of the Bible often introduced into the most frivolous conversation and made mirth provoking. Irreverence for the oath in courtroom or custom house or legislative hall by the conventional and Irreverence for the holy Sabbath by the way it is broken in pleasure excursion and carousal. Irreverence on the part of children for their parents, insolence being substituted for obedi-Irreverence for rulers, which in- are miserable because they are all the duces vile cartoons and assassination. | way looking for gratitude which they Irreverence in church during prayer, cannot find. You might as well go measuring off song and sermon cold, artistic or literary criticism, and ton, or Brondway. New York, or Tre in prayer time neither howing the head nor bending the knee nor standing as one does in the presence of quoises and emeralds and rubles. Perearthly ruler, thus showing more re-, haps you might find them, but there is whatever belides, you will go through spect for a man than to the King of not much probability that in fifty years all right. kings. We ask not for genufications you would find one of them. One Ed

or circumflexions or prostrations, but when prayer is offered let us either bow the head or bend the knee or let us in some way prove that we are not battlefield of Alma in 1854 a wounded indifferent. In how many places have Russian was crying in anguish of thirst leaving that theory aside, we presumption and foolhardiness taken for water. Captain Eddington of the the place of reverence! That three- English army ran to him and gave him quarters of a mile between the chest of drink. As the captain was running by acacia covered with gold and mounted to join his regiment the wounded solwith wings-a symbol of the divine dier shot bim. Almost all languages presence-and the marching regiments have proverbs setting forth this perof Joshua suggests a reverence that is versity. English proverb, "Bring up a woefully lacking in social life, in legis- raven, and it will pick out your eyes." lative ball and religious assemblage. Arabic proverb, "Eat the present and A farmer went to the wheatfield, tak- break the dish." Italian proverb, "The ing his son with him. The child said, ass, after having drunk, gives a kick "These stalks that stand straight up to the bucket." An old proverb says, must have the best grain. Those stalks that bend over cannot be worth to carry us on his back to Rome, we anything." Then the father broke off two of the tops of the stalks and said, "Child, that one that bends clear over , chair." You will never be happy in this has the grain." It is the soul that world if you do not do all the good you bows in deepest reverence which is the best soul.

Follow the Divine Leading.

But though Joshua's host observed the three-quarters of a mile command, they followed the ark, and you will do well to follow the divine leading, as the path you trend now has not yet been trodden. "Ye have not passed this way before." Many of you are The fact is, I blame no one for mak- suffering from just such annoyances ing lifetime mistakes. I pity them in- as have not occurred in all your his- tated. You are no better than your tory. There have been meannesses practiced upon you or you have received slights or you are the subject your youthful experiences for wisdom, of misinterpretations or you are in the midst of sore disappointments or there are demands made upon your strength on midlife experiences, for the two and time more than you can meet or some physical ailment is laying siege to infant to the palace, and the over and your castle of health or you are under embarrassments that you cannot men tion even to nearest friends. You say: "Well, I never saw anything like this. thorns it would have been a coronashrinking. An achievement that would I never expected such treatment as be easy for you might be impossible this. I never thought it possible to be earth kneeling at the foot of his throne. for me. Human advice is ordinarily of placed in such circumstances." And when you say all that you are only translating the words of my text into your own phraseology. If you had suffered something like this before, you est and the slowest to make up. Who would have known what to do, but ical and mental and moral capacities here is a flank movement for which As you have had no experience of

scrapbook twenty years age, for the this kind upon which to draw for wis- words are so strikingly true: dom and as you cannot fully state all Forgiveness to the injured does belong. But they ne'er parden who have done the wrong. We talk about the great discoveries go to God and tell him all about it. of the age, the electric power, the He knows already, but it will relieve steam power, the telescopic and micro you and help you if you tell him. That scople power, but do not say anything is what he has been doing ever since about the discoveries we all make year the world got into trouble by disobediby year and day by day. There are ent behavior on the banks of the Eusurprises all the time. It is a new road phrates. If in the first chapter of the we are traveling. "Ye have not passed Bible we see the gate through which this way before." the woes of the world entered, in the third chapter of the Bible we see the opening of the gate through which they But closely allied is the other fact are to be driven out. Promises by the scores and hundreds and thousands. Sacrificial lambs foretelling the Lamb This is our only opportunity for doing the Rocky mountains, and according of God. Rock stricken into gushing certain things that ought to be done floods, typical of the fact that the Pillar of fire hoisted above wilderness that we ought to warm, kind words march. Star of hope over birthplace that we ought to speak, generous deeds in a barn. Sepulchers rent open. Trum-

Perhaps it is a bereavement. You the Jordan. The impress of the sandal

children or thought you did, but now in what direction he was going, bu that the sorrow has come to your own | never did the impress of the sandal of nursery it is a different thing. You any one of them show that he had renever could have imagined the silences | turned. about the house now that the little feet are quiet and the infant voice has ceased its prattle. What a sensation at eventide with no one to put to bed! What toys put away to be looked at on | now I will do the next time I come. anniversary days! How Christmas day is shadowed and the world is changed! Get over it? You never can get over it in this world. Perhaps it is your first sorrow. "Ye have not passed this way before." God grant that you may never pass this way again. of the twentieth century must consult In the Wake of the Ark.

But follow the ark, and it will lead you to rivers of consolation. You will find that your child has gone into a heaven of children, a land where children are in vast majority, a score of infant souls to one manly or womanly soul, for the vast majority of the race die in infancy. It is the exception when people live to grow up. Heaven a great playground for children. Palaces for kings and queens? Oh, yes! But what wide halls of pleasure, what gardens of delight, what raptures, such as on earth with ball and kite and hoop they never felt! Let them go, mother. You can trust him in the land of music and flowers. The front door of that eternal home was opened by him who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of What a time the children have up there! Can you not almost dan when the march of our life is endhear their quick feet on the ivory stairs? What rounds of gladness! What laughter of eternal glee! Follow the ark, and it will lead you to the crossing into the reunions of the home where you will never part.

As our sorrows are new, our joys are new and all our experiences are new. Our life is one long discovery of things that we did not know and could not know, because we have not passed this way before. We have found, for instance, that gratitude is the rarest of virtues. You used to suppose that if you do a kindness it will be fully appreciated and reciprocated. You have found out by experience, as you could have found out in no other way, that gratitude is apt to be only another ax to grind. While there is a possibility that you may return still more service you are thanked, but when you can re turn no more advantage you are dropped. Here is a man whom you have helped in political elevation. When the time comes for the compliment to be returned, you are not only refused help, but you receive positive oppos You have found out that you should do the right thing not with respect to reward or gratitude, but because it is the right thing to do. Many down Pennsylvania avenue, Washing-

because we had not passed this way

before is the fact that if two be in

quarrel or in war with each other the

one who is the mest wrong is the hard-

wrote them I know not, but I cut these

two lines out and pasted them in my

Our Only Opportunity.

marshal of France, appeared with 18,-Surprising Discoveries. 000 armed then on the heights above No one has come to midlife who has not been stung of ingratitude. On the arms to defend the town, and the inhabitants were wild with terror. Then the old dean of the church cried out: "My brothers, this is Easter day! We strength, and that falls Let us turn to God. Ring the bells and have service as usual." sweetly and mightily from the church towers of Feldkirch, and the people thronged to the houses of prayer for worship. The sound of the bells made the enemy think that the Austrian army had come in to save the place, and Massena and his 18,000 soldlers re-"If God were to be so complacent as treated. By the time the bells had stopped ringing there was not one solwould not thank him for his pains if dier in sight. So put your trust in he did not also set us down in an easy God, and when hos s of troubles and temptations march for your overthrow ring all the bells of hope and faith and can and look for no responsive grati-Christian triumph, and the threatening tude. All the damage I did a man who perils of your life will fall back, and is my enemy was to take him from a your deliverance will be celebrated all position where he received \$700 a year up and down the skies. The God who led you through the way you never salary into a position where he has ever since received \$2,500 a year. He passed before will be with you at all never forgave me, but has pursued me the crossings. with a pen vitriolic ever since. The worst enemy you ever had is the man [Copyright, 1901, Louis Klopsch, N. Y.] you introduced and favored and helped. But be not disturbed or even irri-Lord. If the world had had any thankful appreciation of his coming it would have filled that Bethlehem caravansary with flowers, which bloom there clear on into the December month, and Herod, instead of attempting his death. would have sent a charlot to fetch the

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The stock will be in quantity and quality to meet all the demands of customers and at right prices. A special feature of the business will be

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This house is now open, is entirely new and is equipped with all the modern conveniences—elevator, electric lights, electric call bells, steam

president, every congress, has new crises to meet and new questions to settle. So prophecies made about conditions in this country fifty years from now may turn out as far untrue as the prophecies made tifty years ago by the greatest of American statesmen when he declared on yonder Capitol bill that it was unwise to think of civiuzation or prosperity the other side of to his belief the Pacific coast would be of annexing those forbidding regions.

pets of deliverance sounded. All heav- I do toward making this world better en to take part in the rescue of our

which we hinted at in the openingthat we will not pass this way again On all sides there are griefs we ought to solace, hunger we ought to feed, cold we ought to perform. All that you and and happier we must do very soon or never came back over the way they were marching toward the crossing o

the far past is not of as much raise as have felt sorrow for these who lest or the bare feet of arch soldier shower

terminer of Pilate's courtroom would have pronounced him not guilty, and instead of a cross and a crown of tion, with all the mighty ones of the Another discovery that surprises us

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Yours very respectfully,